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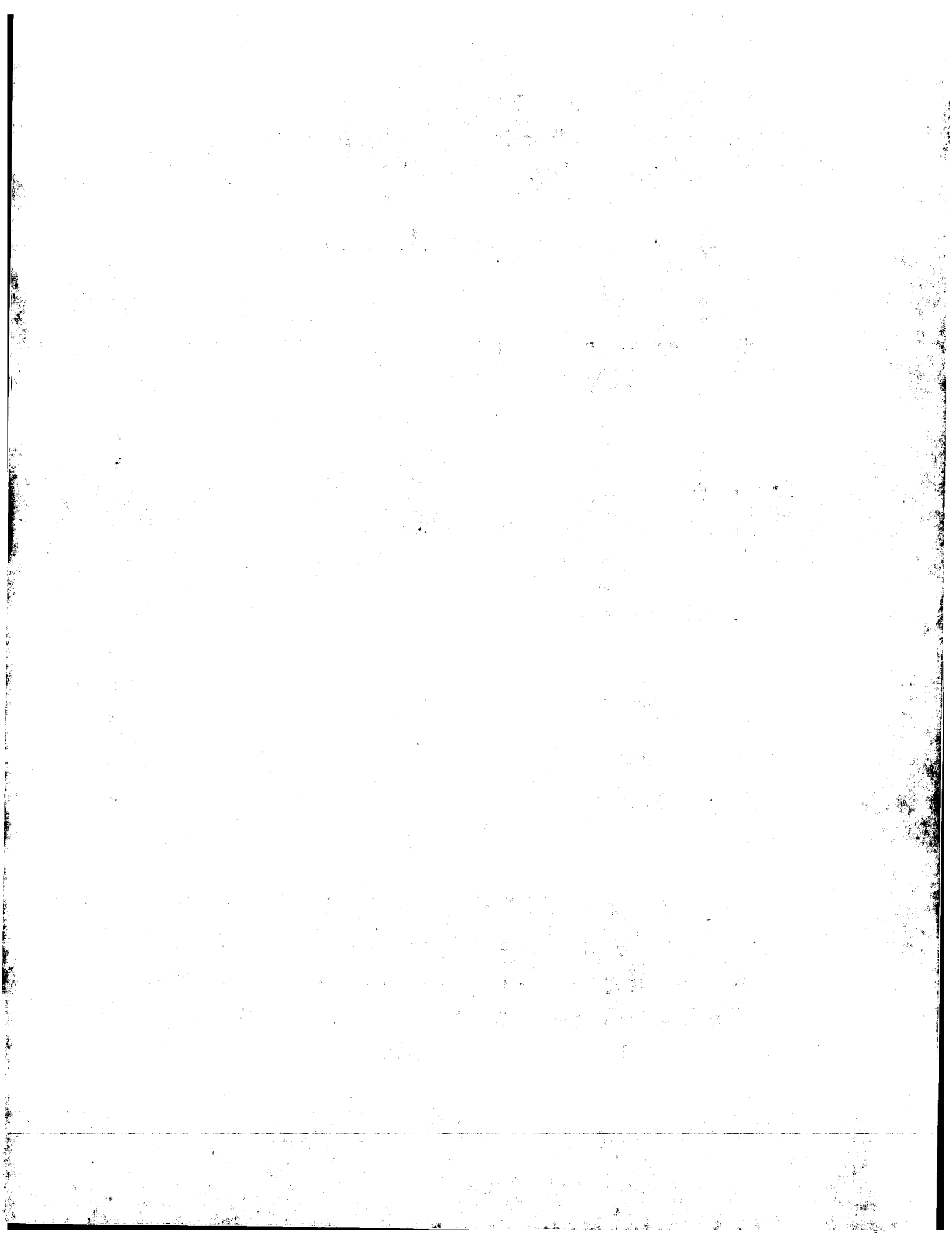
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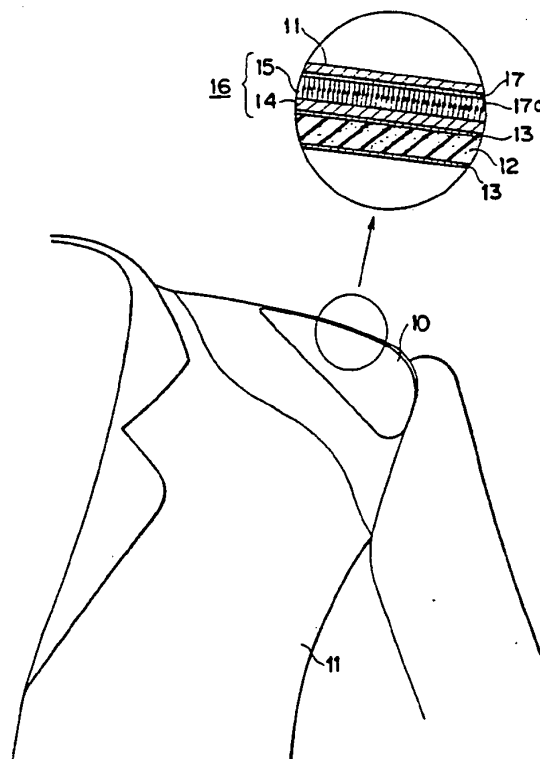
Selected US specifications from IPC sub-classes

A44B A41D

(54) Shoulder-pad fastener

(57) A shoulder-pad is attached inside the shoulder portion of a jacket or coat by a fastener combination consisting of a male fastening member (16) of a velvet type having a support (14) on which small pieces or hooks (15) are formed and which is attached to the surface of the shoulder pad (10), and a napped cloth (17) made of a tricot or felt fabric and sewn on the suit (11) in a position where it is to face and join the male member of the fastener when the shoulder pad is attached inside the shoulder portion of the suit. The fastener provides a smoother line to the garment.

FIG. 1



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FIG. 1

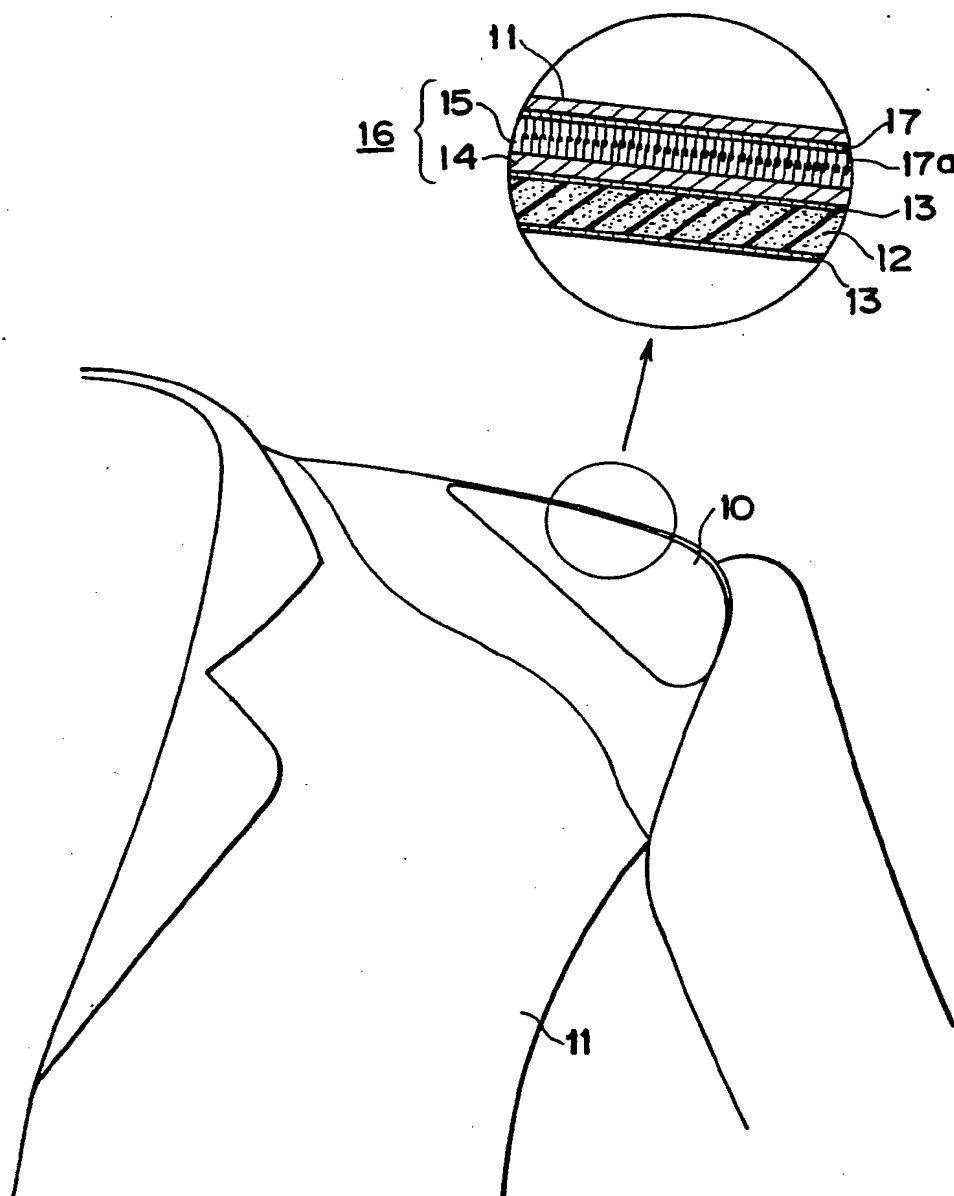


FIG. 2

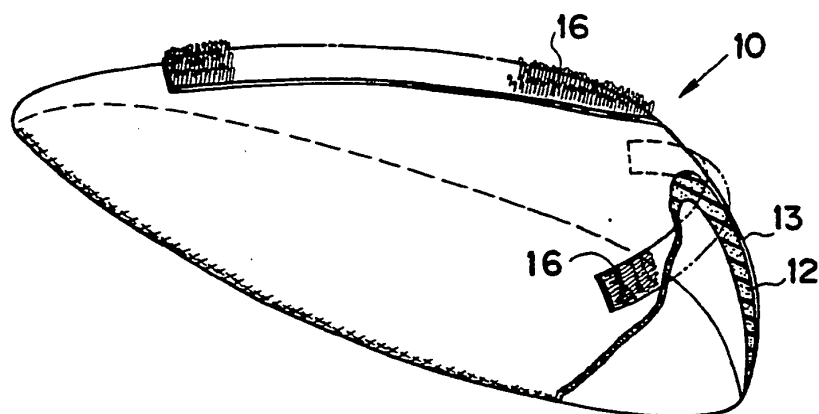


FIG. 3A

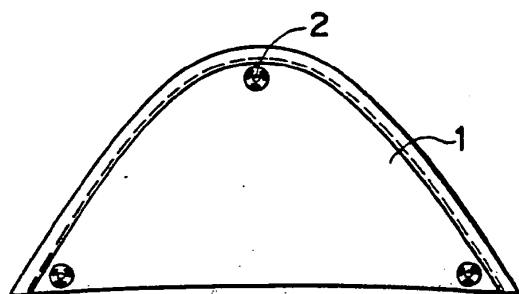


FIG. 3B

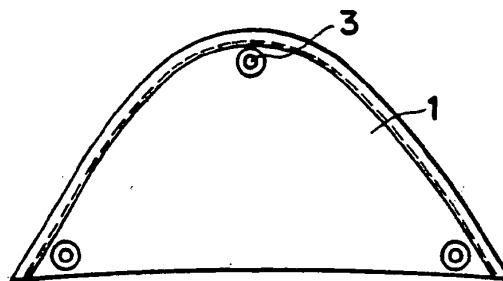
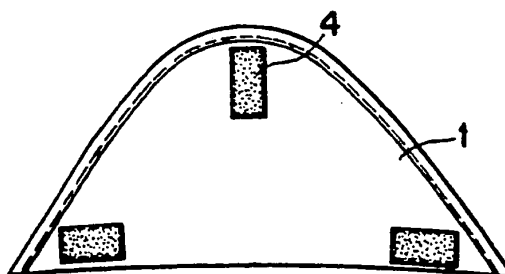


FIG. 3C



SHOULDER-PAD FASTENER

The present invention relates to a shoulder-pad fastener which is to be attached inside the shoulder portion of a jacket or coat (hereinafter referred to as a suit) in order to create an attractive silhouette when one puts on the suit.

As is well known, suits are provided with shoulder pads inside the shoulder portions thereof to create an attractive silhouette, when one wears the suit, by correcting the line due to high shoulders, round shoulders or due to any imbalance between the right and left shoulders.

Such shoulder pads used to be attached by sewing to the shoulder portions. Recently, however, many shoulder pads have been designed to be removable to avoid any difficulty when washing and ironing the suit or when putting other clothing under the suit.

Namely, as shown in Figs. 3A and 3B of the accompanying drawings, which are front views of respective conventional shoulder-pad fasteners, a pad 1 is removably attached by snaps 2 or dot buttons 3 to the inside of the shoulder portion of a suit. There have also been proposed such types of shoulder pads as are attached with so-called velvet fasteners 4 as shown in Fig. 3C of the drawings.

However, among the aforementioned conventional fasteners for shoulder pads, the snaps 2 and dot buttons 3 take time for attachment to the shoulder pad and suit, and as the pads are repeatedly attached and detached, the fitting between one component and its counterpart of the snap or dot button becomes loose. In the case when velvet fasteners, each consisting of a male member having a support on which many mushroom-shaped small pieces or hooks are formed and a female member having a support on which many loops are formed, are used to attach a shoulder pad to a suit, the pad can be easily attached and detached. In this case, however, the fastener members, male and female, must be sewn on the pad and suit, respectively, which causes the pads not to be readily useable. Furthermore, when one wears the suit with the pads detached, the shoulder portion of the suit will not fit well because the fastener member remaining inside the shoulder portion of the suit has some rigidity which stiffens the shoulder portion.

The present invention aims to overcome or at least mitigate the aforementioned drawbacks of the conventional shoulder pad fasteners by providing a shoulder-pad fastener comprising a male fastening member of a velvet type having a support on which mushroom-shaped small pieces or hooks are formed and which is to be attached on the surface of the shoulder pad, and a gigger cloth located in a position where it is to face and join the male member of the fastener when

the shoulder pad is attached inside the shoulder portion of a suit and which is engaged with the mushroom-shaped small pieces or hooks on the velvet-type male fastening member, whereby the shoulder pad can be removably attached inside the shoulder portion of the suit.

The invention will be further described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a sectional view, partially enlarged in scale, showing the attached state of a shoulder pad and engagement between the shoulder pad and velvet-type fastener in a shoulder-pad fastener according to the invention;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view, partially cut away, of the shoulder pad of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 3A to 3C are front views showing conventional shoulder-pad fasteners, respectively.

Fig. 1. shows an embodiment of a shoulder-pad fastener according to the present invention. In the drawing, reference numeral 10 indicates a shoulder pad, and 11 a suit to which the shoulder pad is attached.

The shoulder pad 10 comprises a core member 12 made of polyurethane which is covered with a cloth 13. The edges of the cloth 13 are sewn on each other. The shoulder pad 10 has a concave portion at the rear thereof, namely it takes the form of a bowl defined by an ellipse and a plane as shown in Fig. 2. Further, the shoulder pad 10 has attached on the surface thereof male



velvet-type fastening members 16, generally forming a "T" character, each having a web-like support 14 on which many hooks 15 are formed.

The shoulder-pad fastener also comprises a gigger cloth 17 made of a tricot fabric. This cloth 17 is to be located in such a position it is to face and join the male velvet-type fastening member 16 on the shoulder pad 10, having the gigger surface 17a directed outwardly, when the shoulder pad 10 is attached inside the suit 11, that it will be engaged with the male fastening member 16.

Therefore, by engaging the hooks 15 on the male velvet-type fastening members 16 attached on spots on the surface of the shoulder pad 10 with the latter applied to the gigger cloth 17 sewn on the suit 11, the shoulder pad 10 can be attached on the suit 11. In the aforementioned embodiment of the present invention, the male velvet-type fastening member 16 is attached on the shoulder pad 10 using an adhesive. However, it should be noted that the fastening member 16 may of course be attached on the shoulder pad 10 using a pressure-sensitive adhesive double coated tape or by sewing. Especially, when a pressure-sensitive adhesive double coated tape is used, it is possible to attach the male fastening member on the shoulder pad more simply and with a lower cost than with the adhesive. Also, the gigger cloth which is to be sewn on the suit 11 is not necessarily a tricot fabric, but any cloth having a

gigged surface such as felt fabric may be used.

As described in the foregoing, according to the present invention, the male velvet-type fastening member attached on the shoulder pad is fixed to the suit at the shoulder portion by engaging the male fastening member with the gigged cloth sewn on the suit. Thus the shoulder pad cannot only be easily attached and detached but also the cost of attaching the pads to the suit can be reduced, thereby reducing the time required for production of the suit. Furthermore, with the gigged cloth sewn on the suit at a position where the shoulder pads are to be attached, the suit can be finished with the shoulder pads detached. In the case of the conventional shoulder-pads fastener, the suit cannot be folded with the shoulder pads attached, so that the suits must be put on hangers when they are commercially distributed. However, according to the present invention, the suit can be put as folded into a sac-shaped case with the shoulder pads when it is to be commercially distributed. Also, since the gigged cloth to be sewn on the suit easily conforms with the suit and it not bulky, it will not spoil the line or silhouette of the suit when one puts it on.

C L A I M S

1. A shoulder-pad fastener consisting of a male velvet-type fastening member attached on the surface of a shoulder pad, and a gigger cloth located in a position where it is to face and join said male member of the fastener when said shoulder pad is attached inside the shoulder portion of a suit (jacket or coat), whereby said shoulder pad can be removably attached inside the shoulder portion of the suit.
2. A shoulder-pad fastener as claimed in Claim 1, in which said male velvet-type fastening member is attachable with an adhesive onto the shoulder pad.
3. A shoulder-pad fastener as claimed in Claim 1, in which said male velvet-type fastening member is attached with a pressure-sensitive adhesive double coated tape onto the shoulder pad.
4. A shoulder-pad fastener as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, in which said gigger cloth is made of a tricot fabric.
5. A shoulder-pad fastener as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, in which said gigger cloth is made of a felt fabric.
6. A shoulder-pad fastener according to claim 1, substantially as herein described with reference to, and as shown in, figures 1 and 2 of the accompanying drawings.

